## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A radio communication method of a base station used for a radio communication system employing CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) for radio access with a plurality of mobile stations and providing multi-rate transmission, the radio communication method comprising:

transmitting timing information by message to the one of the plurality of mobile stations,

switching at the base station a transmission code from a first code to a second code in synchronization with a switching of the first code to the second code at the one of the plurality of mobile stations, said one of the plurality of mobile stations switching the first code to the second code based on the transmitted timing information, wherein

the timing information includes an integer representing a frame at which the first code is switched to the second code, and the timing information is used for switching the first code to the second code at the one of the plurality of mobile stations, and

releasing the first code.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A radio communication method of a base station used for a radio communication system employing CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) for radio access with a plurality of mobile stations and providing multi-rate transmission, the radio communication method comprising:

transmitting timing information by message to the one of the plurality of mobile stations,

switching at the base station a transmission code from a first code to a second code in synchronization with a switching of the first code to the second code at the one of the plurality of mobile stations, said one of the plurality of mobile stations switching the first code to the second code based on the transmitted timing information, wherein

the timing information regards timing of switching the first code to the second code, and the timing information is used for switching the first code to the second code at the one of the plurality of mobile stations, and

transmitting a code switching complete message to notice a completion of the switching to a base station controller.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A base station used for a radio communication system employing CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) for radio access with a plurality of mobile stations and providing multi-rate transmission, the base station comprising

a timing information sending unit configured to transmit timing information by message to the one of the plurality of mobile stations;

a switching unit configured to switch a transmission code from a first code to a second code at the base station in synchronization with a switching of the first code to the second code at the one of the plurality of mobile stations, said one of the plurality of mobile stations switching the first code to the second code based on the transmitted timing information, wherein

the timing information includes an integer representing a frame at which the first code is switched to the second code, and the timing information is used for

switching the first code to the second code at the one of the plurality of mobile stations, and

one of the plurality of mobile stations releases the first code after switching the first code to the second code.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A base station used for a radio communication system employing CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) for radio access with a plurality of mobile stations and providing multi-rate transmission, the base station comprising

a timing information sending unit configured to transmit timing information by message to the one of the plurality of mobile stations;

a switching unit configured to switch a transmission code at the base station from a first code to a second code in synchronization with a switching of the first code to the second code at the one of the plurality of mobile stations, said one of the plurality of mobile stations switching the first code to the second code based on the transmitted timing information, and to transmit a code switching complete message to notice a completion of the switching to a base station controller, wherein

the timing information regards timing of switching the first code to the second code, and the timing information is used for switching the first code to the second code at the one of the plurality of mobile stations.